SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Sir, the nucleus group is taking measures to deal with the problems.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do qou get any information from the State headquarters as to the consequence or effect of this social education and other programmes? Are you getting reports about the number of people rehabilitated, the number of people weaned away and all that?

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Sir, it is regarding screening of documentary fiilms that he is asking.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Nirmal Chatterjee.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: Sir, among preventive measures massive propaganda about drug abuse is, of course, very important. What I want to know is this: I know a doctor in Calcutta who is bringing out pamphlets—very low-priced ones—explaining what is drug abuse, etc. He approached me to know whether the Government of India would be interested in adopting them and selling them; he is prepared to make translation into all the Indian languages. Do the Government consider that such efforts the Government can encourage by all means and is the Government prepared for that?

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: This is a very good suggestion for action. Therefore, if we get that type of information we will look into it.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: Sir, I have not been able to understand the reply.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He says it is a good suggestion and he will look into it.

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO: You write a letter to him giving details of it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Motiram Patel.

SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Sir, he is not Motiram Patel. He is Vithalbhai Patel, son of Motiram Patel.... (*Interruptions*) ....

An HON. MEMBER: Anyway, he is a Patel.

SHRI VITHALBHAI MOTIRAM PATEL: Sir, may I know from the honourable Minister whether he is aware that TV serial, *Subah* is being shown to tackle the problem of drug abuse? I want to know whether it is helping tackle the problem of drug abuse or it is spoiling.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Sir, the fiilm was not produced by our Ministry. The impact of the serial is based on the subject which is related to that part and we have not collected information on the impact of that film. I have no information about that and, therefore, I can't comment on that matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next Question.

*245 [*The questioners (Shri Mukhtiar Singh Malik and Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury) were absent. For answer* vide *col.* 31 *intra.*[

*246. [*The questioner (Shri H. Hanumanthappa) was absent for answer* vide *col.* 31-35 *intra.*]

*247. [*The questioner (Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury) was absent. For answer* vide *col.* 35 *Infra.*]

248. [*The questioners (Shri Suraj Prasad and Shri J. P. Goyal) were absent. For answer,* vide *col.* 35-37 *infra.*]

Irregularities in distriubtion of imported sugar by NCCF, Lucknow

*249. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to some irregularities committed by the NCCF officials in the distribution of imported sugar at Lucknow, the District Administration had lodged an FIR in Lucknow in January/February 1986, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether irregularities in the distribution of imported levy sugar were also committed by NCCF officials in Delhi, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action was taken against the officials involved in these bunglings as per the Essential Commodities Act/Regulations pertaining to such controlled commodities which are heavily subsidised by Government and are meant for the benefit of the weaker sections of the Society?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) and (c) Yes, Sir. An FIR as lodged in Lucknow on 6th January, 1986 against the incharge and some staff members of NCCF sub-office, Lucknow on the following grounds:

(i) Non-availability of licence as required under U.P. Sugar and Gur Licensing Order.

(ii) Non-submission of various statement/daily reports by Lucknow Sub-Office of the NCCF in contravention of U.P. Government orders.

(iii) Stock shortage of 191.38 quintals of imported sugar.

The concerned official whose name appeared in the FIR has been transferred out of Lucknow. The matter is being investigated by SIS Department of U. P. Police who have been reminded to expedite the investigations.

(b) It has been reported by NCCF that there was a stock shortage of 40.7 MTs. in the handling of about 2,200 MTs. of imported levy free sugar in Delhi and that there was a short deposit of sale proceeds by employees amounting to Rs. 1.33 lakhs out of which an amount of Rs. 0.91 lakhs has already been recovered. The matter has been referred to Delhi Police for investigation.

श्री अश्विनी कुमार : माननीय सभापति महोदय, मंत्री महोदय ने स्वीकार किया है कि चीनी वितरण अधिनियम का उल्लघंन करके बड़ी मात्रा में चीनी को योग्य उपभोक्ताओं तक न पहुंचा कर कालेबाजार में चीनी बेची गयी है । मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहूंगा कि कौन-कौन से वे अधिकारी हैं जिनका एफ० आई० आर०में नाम लिया गया है, पुलिस ने कार्रवाई दर्ज की है, मामला कोर्ट में गया है उन पर क्या कार्रवाई हो रही है ?

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: Sir, as I submitted just now, in the FIR it has been mentioned...Sir, shall I mention the names from the FIR, have I your permission?

MR CHAIRMAN: No.

SHRI H. K. L BHAGAT: Sorry. It is not proper. The matter is yet under investigation by the police. We have asked them that we should expedite the investigation.

श्री अश्विनी कुमार : माननीय सभापति महोदय, इस प्रकार की गड़बड़ियां केवल चीनी के मामले में ही नहीं चावल के मामले में और छुआरे के मामले में और बहुत सारे मामलों में होती हैं । पिछली बार सदन में मंत्री महोदय ने आवश्यक कार्रवाई का आश्वासन दिया था । क्या उन मामलों में भी आज तक कोई कार्रवाई हुई ? इसमें हम को आशंका है कि चीनी के घपले में यूनियन के एक वरिष्ठ पदाधिकारी का हाथ है जिसके कारण ये सारी चीजें दबा दी जायेंगी और इसके ऊपर एक्शन नहीं होगा । इस बारे में आश्वासन चाहूंगा कि चाहे कोई भी यूनियन का अधिकारी हो उस पर कार्रवाई होगी और पिछली बार जिस घपले के बारे में आश्वासन दिया था यानी छुआरे के बारे में लेटेस्ट जानकारी मंत्री महोदय देने की कृपा करें ?

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: Sir, I would like to categorically assure the hon. Member that so far as the Government is concerned, no one will be spared whoever is concerned with the alleged irregularities.

Sir, with regard to the question of dates—he is saying "chware, dates, Khajoor"—that question also has been referred to the CBI. A number of other cases, nine the cases have been referred to the CBI for investigation, and no one will be spared. Besides this, I am only adding for the information of the hon. Member, that the Central Registrar of Co-operative Societies gave a notice to the Board for supersession, asking why the Board should not be superseded. The matter was challenged in a court of law, and that is pending. That is one aspect of the matter. I repeat my categorical assurance that in the case of the NCCF functioning, Government itself is not happy, and no one will be spared.

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा : माननीय मंत्री जी को जानकारी है कि एन०सी०सी०एफ० में जबर्दस्त घोटाले, गबन, मिस-एप्रोप्रिएशन आदि के केसेज हुये हैं। उस संबंध में ठोस कार्रवाई भी की गई है ? मंत्री महोदय यह बताने की कृपा करें कि क्या यह सही है कि जो 191 बोरे चीनी के संबंध में लखनऊ में रीजनल फूड आफिसर ने रिपोर्ट दर्ज किये थे जिनका कोई एकाउन्ट नहीं दे सके उस अधिकारी का तो तबादला वहां से कर दिया गया लेकिन उसके खिलाफ क्या एक्शन लिया गया यह बताने की कृपा करें ? दूसरे यह कि क्या यह सही है कि दिल्ली के 10 आफिशियल्स के खिलाफ शूगर की एम्बेजलमेंट के केसेज पेंडिंग हैं ? उनके खिलाफ भी कोई डिसिपलनरी एक्शन लिया गया ? तीसरा में यह जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या यह भी सही है कि क्लाथ के मामले में जो भारी सब्सिडाइज्ड आइटम है, धोती वगैरह कानपुर और कलकत्ता के जनरल मैनेजर ने आउट आफ रीजन यानी शाहदरा में ऐसे स्टोरों को बेचा है, जिस कोआपरेटिव स्टोर पर साढ़े 22 लाख रुपया पुराना था ? मंत्री जी० 6 मार्च को हाउस में एक अतारांकित प्रश्न में स्वीकार किया है कि 28 लाख 93 हजार का लोस जनता हैंडलूम क्लाथ का हुआ है। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि इस संबंध में आपने क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: I am glad the hon. Member says that the Government did take action. As I said in a number of cases we have taken action, even in regard to the controlled cloth we have taken action. With regard to the sale of sugar in Delhi the NCCF has its own version. They have their explanation and version that the quantity is this and that and so on and so forth but all the same since the UP authorities registered a case we have said it should be investigated fully on merits and we have asked them to expedite it. So far as Delhi is concerned, 16 people have been charge-sheeted. With regard to this a number of irregularities came to the notice of the Government and the Government has taken action under the law. It is determined to pursue this matter to the best of its capacity.

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा : श्रीमन् मेरे "सी" पार्ट के क्वेश्चन का उत्तर नहीं आया जो शाहदरा के संबंध में था। आपने 6 मार्च को अपने उत्तर में स्वीकार किया था, उसी संबंध में मैंने प्रश्न पूछा था। 6 मार्च को क्वेश्चन नं० 1221 में आपने कहा है—

NCCF has reported that its Kanpur Branch in violation of guidelines has supplied on credit Janata handloom cloth worth Rs. 28,93000 to the Shahdara Consumer Cooperative Store and an amount of Rs. 22 lakhs 46 thousand still remains unpaid to the NCCF.

आपने खुद यह बात मानी है कि क्लाथ आउट आफ जोन भेजा गया है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि इस संबंध में आप ने क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: I have got a list of a number of cases which have been referred to the CBI with details. A case is regarding 633 bales of controlled cloth worth about Rs. 32 lakhs despatched by the NCCF lost in transit. On 17th January, 1986 it was referred to the CBI. I have got all these cases. Again and unspecified quantity of controlled cloth is there. This Shahdara case also, which the hon. Member is referring to, was investigated by the CBI and action, according to the CBI report, is being taken I give him an assurance that no case will be kept unlooked into and nobody will be spared so far as the Government is concerned.

SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: I have begun realising, because I have received half a dozen replies in this session from the hon. Minister, that he is very serious about the cleaning operation. The thrust of the supplementaries is also towards the cleaning operation. I have now become confident that except one or two blacksheep rest are out of it. CBI cases are there. Let the law take its own course. But still the basic question remains--which I asked the last session—how long will you take to free these people from eating and cheating business? Are you able to free it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question please.

SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: The question is how long will it take to put you on the right track? There is a purpose behind the consumer organisations to benefit those consumers. So, after this action that the hon. Minister has taken in cleaning them, will he be equally effective in restoring it back to the healthy life for which it has been founded to serve the national cause? This is my question.

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: The hon. Member has put a very relevant question. I must thank him. But, unfortunately, I cannot.. (*Interruptions*).

The very fact is that the Government is taking action. The job of fixing responsibility on a particular person is not mine. The very fact is that the Central Registrar of Cooperative societies gave a notice for supersession of the Board and that matter is pending before the High Court. The matter is sub judice. But I can assure the hon. Member that all possible steps are being taken to achieve the very good purpose for which this organisation was founded. We shall do our best to expedite all possible action to see that its health is restored. It has been in a bad shape and we want to change it and see that its purpose is served.

श्री घनश्याम सिंह: सभापति महोदय, इस बात की प्रसन्नता है कि माननीय मंत्री जी बहुत प्रभावी कार्यवाही करते हैं अभी आपने और भी कार्यवाही करने के बारे में इंगित किया कि सी०बी०आई० की जांच चल रही है । मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से केटेगरीकली जानना चाहता हूं कि नीचे के कर्मचारियों के विरुद्ध आप सी०बी०आई० की जांच करा रहे हैं, जो अच्छी बात है और जब वह कार्यवाही हो जायेगी तो उसके अनुसार उन्हें सजा दी जायेगी । यह बात ठीक है लेकिन इस संस्था को जो रजिस्ट्रार ने नोटिस दिया है वह प्रबंधक मंडल की नियुक्ति करने के लिये दिया है । मैं आपसे यह जानना चाहता हूं कि जो प्रबंधनिदेशक या जो सबसे सीनियर आफिसर है, जो इस काम को देख रहा है उनके विरुद्ध क्या विभागीय कार्यवाही संचालक मंडल ने की है ? मैं कैटेगरीकली यह भी जानना चाहता हूं इनके खिलाफ आप क्या कार्यवाही करेंगे ? साथ ही जो इतनी गड़बड़ियां कर चुके हैं उनके खिलाफ कोई कार्यवाही नहीं हो रही है तो इसका क्या कारण है ?

श्री एच०के०एल० भगत: मैं आनरेबल मेम्बर से यह प्रार्थना करना चाहूंगा कि वहां पर जिनके खिलाफ इल्जाम हैं, चाहे वे छोटे हैं चाहे बड़े हैं, जिनका मामला नालेज में आया है उनके खिलाफ इंक्वायरी इनिसियेट की गई है, उनके खिलाफ इंक्वायरी की जायेगी और इसको हम एक्सपिडाइट किये हुये हैं । उसमें यह सवाल नहीं है कि उसको हटाया या नहीं हटाया है । जो हमारे

सबसे सीनियर आफिसर हैं वे अभी छुट्टी पर गये हैं । हमने वहां नये आदमी को टेम्परेरी चार्ज दिया है । हम, चाहे छोटा आफिसर हो या बड़ा आफिसर हो, कोई भी हो, उसके खिलाफ अगर कोई शिकायत होगी तो उसको मैरिट पर इन्वेस्टीगेट करके उसके खिलाफ कार्यवाही करेंगे ।

SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA: Sir, this is a very fit case for allowing us to raise half-an-hour discussion.

MR CHAIRMAN: You please write a letter. I will consider it on merits. Next Question.

*250. [*The questioner (Shri Kamalendu Bhattacharjee) was absent. For answer,* vide *col.* 37-38 infra]

*251. [*The questioners (Shri Kalpnath Rai and Shri Rafique Alam) were absent. For answer,* vide *col.* 38—40 infra]

*252. [*The questioners (Shri Sharad Yadav and Shri Ram Naresh Kushawaha) were absent. For answer,* vide col. 41 *infra*]

*253. [*The questioners (Prof. B. Ramachandra Rao and Shri Vishvjit Prithvijit Singh) were absent. For answer,* vide *col.* 41—43 infra]

*254. [*The questioner (Shri J. P. Goyal) was absent. For answer,* vide *col.* 43-44 infra]

*255. [*The questioner (Shri V. Narayanasamy) was absent. For answer,* vide *col.* 44 infra]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 256.

SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Q. No. 256.

MR. CHAIRMAN: A star in the darkness.

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO: A star in the darkness look beautiful.

SHRI G. S. DHILLON: I think all Members are on my Ministry.

Shortcomings of Cooperative Institutions

256. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:†
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on December 23, 1986 at a Conference of State Ministers of Cooperation held in Delhi he had called for removing many shortcomings in the functioning of the cooperative institutions; and

(b) if so, what are those specific shortcomings and what are the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI G. S. DHILLON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The shortcomings in the cooperative institutions related to operational and structural weaknesses, overdues in the credit sector, management inadequacies and default in holding timely and regular elections. "Cooperative Societies" is a State subject. The remedial measures including efforts for improving recovery of overdues, timely holding of elections and revitalisation and strengthening of cooperatives, as finalised by the Conference have been recommended to the State Governments with a request that strategy and action plan may be devised to expedite follow up action thereon.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Shanker Singh Vaghela.